

REMARKS

Claims 19-42 are currently pending. Applicant has amended claims 19-21, 29, and 35-37.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his consideration during the telephone interview on March 2, 2006. During the telephone interview, the Examiner and applicant's representative discussed the invention and possible claim amendments.

The Examiner has rejected claims 19, 20, 22-26, 28-33, 35, 36, and 38-42 as being anticipated by the publication Microsoft Project 98, and claims 21, 27, 34, and 37 as being unpatentable over Microsoft Project 98 in view of Schanel. Even though applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis of these rejections, applicant has amended independent claims 19, 29, and 35 to further clarify the claimed subject matter.

As agreed to by the Examiner during the March 2, 2006 telephone interview, claims 19-42 distinguish over the applied references for reciting features that are neither taught nor suggested by the cited references. Instead, Microsoft Project 98 discloses representing a task as a graphical element having a fixed number of data fields (five) in a fixed layout surrounded by a border. As a result, Microsoft Project 98 fails to disclose that the number of data fields in the graphical element can be altered nor the five data fields can be arranged in a different layout, as recited by each of the claims. For example, claims 19-28 recites "the first format of the graphical element including a first border surrounding a first set of cells arranged in a first layout, the first set of cells being configured to display a first set of data fields of the task," "the second format including a second border surrounding a second set of cells arranged in a second layout different from the first layout," and "the second set of cells being configured to display a second set of data fields of the task different from the first set of data fields," which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited references.

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Claims 29-34 similarly recite "a first set of one or more data variables arranged in a first layout, the first set of data variables are arranged in a first layout," and "a second set of one or more data variables different than the first set of data variables, wherein the second set of data variables are arranged in a second layout different than the first layout," which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited references.

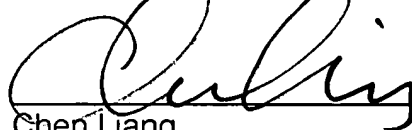
Claims 35-42 similarly recite "the first shape format including a first border in a first shape surrounding a first set of cells arranged in a first layout, the first set of cells is configured to display a first set of data fields of the task," and "the second shape format including a second border in a second shape different than the first shape, the second border surrounding a second set of cells arranged in a second layout different than the first layout," which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited references.

Based on the above amendment remarks, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8548.

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Respectfully submitted,

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